

Discussion Questions: Week 9

Letter 30

In this letter, Screwtape scolds Wormwood as his attack on the patient's courage has failed. Though the patient felt like a coward during an air raid, he did his duty anyway. Wormwood is reminded that there is no mercy or consideration in Hell, and therefore must bring results. Screwtape suggests planting false hope in order to exploit the patient's weariness. He also suggests using the reality of death around him to keep him from spiritual mindedness

- 1. What is the difference between how God treats His followers and Satan treats his demons? What are their relationships based on?
- 2. What does Screwtape say that fatigue and unexpected demands can produce? Have you had a time when disappointment turned into a "sense of injury?"
- 3. What type of attack does Screwtape recommend when an intellectual attack fails to make any headway?

Letter 31

The patient has been killed in an airstrike and finally shook off the demonic influence of Wormwood. Wormwood bore witness to the patient's transformation in the presence of God even as he was cast back into darkness and to Screwtape, who is looking forward to punishing Wormwood for his failure.

- 1. How would you describe the patient's "sudden clearing of the eyes," and have you experienced something similar?
- 2. What do 1 Cor. 15:5-57 and Job 19:25-27 say about our experience with death?